



New Jersey Agricultural Statistics Service
Room 205
Health and Agriculture Building
Trenton, NJ 08625

In cooperation with:

New Jersey Department of Agriculture
P.O. Box 330
Trenton, NJ 08625

National Agricultural Statistics Service
United States Department of Agriculture

July 30, 2004

NEWS

For Immediate Use

New Jersey's 2004 Peach Crop Production Unchanged from Previous Year

The New Jersey Agricultural Statistics Service in Trenton recently surveyed New Jersey peach farmers as part of a national survey to determine the expected 2004 freestone peach crop based on conditions as of July 1, 2004. The 2004 **Garden State** peach crop is estimated at 70 million pounds, unchanged from the previous year but 13 percent above 2002. Crop conditions are rated good to excellent. Fruit development is about a week ahead of schedule. Good volume is expected by the end of the first week of July.

The July 2004 forecast of United States freestone peach production is 1.46 billion pounds, up one percent from 2003, and four percent above 2002. As shown in the table below, six of the top eleven peach producing states forecast an increase in production from last year. California's production decreased six percent while South Carolina increased 40 percent. Georgia and New Jersey remained unchanged. The top five producing states account for 79 percent of the United States freestone peach production.

Freestone Peaches, Total Production by State, 2002-2003 and Forecasted July 1, 2004

State	Ranking based on 2004	Total Production			
		2002	2003	2004	% Change
		<i>- Million Pounds -</i>			
California	1	796	826	780	(6)
South Carolina	2	160	100	140	40
Georgia	3	90	110	110	NC
New Jersey	4	62	70	70	NC
Pennsylvania	5	60	73	54	(26)
Michigan	6	14	47	43	(9)
Washington	7	46	39	40	3
Alabama	8	22.5	9	31	244
Texas	9	12	7	25	257
Colorado	10	19	21	22	5
Illinois	11	17.2	20.5	22	5
United States	--	1,411	1,447	1,462.4	1

Internet Access:

*For free automatic e-mail subscriptions to this publication go to
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/sub-form.htm> or visit our homepage at
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/nj/>